

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action of December 1, 2005, has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Claims 10 and 11 have been amended, claims 1-8 and 17-26 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and new claims 27-42 have been added. Claims 9-16 and 27-42 thus remain pending in this application. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 10, 11, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicants have amended claims 10 and 11 to be in a more preferred form, and respectfully request the rejection be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 17, 18, and 20-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Montag *et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 5,926,401).

Claims 1-8 and 17-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Montag.

Applicants have canceled claims 1-8 and 17-26 in favor of presenting them in a continuation application, thereby rendering these rejections moot.

New Claims

Applicants have added new claims 27-42. The new claims are supported by the application as filed. No new matter has been added. New claims 27-34 recite computer readable media storing software for performing the method of allowable claims 9-16, and new claims 35-42 recite a computer system storing software for performing the method of allowable claims 9-16. New claims 27-42 are thus believed to be allowable.

CONCLUSION

All rejections having been addressed, applicant respectfully submits that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicits prompt notification of the same. However, if for any reason the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance or there are any questions, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (202) 824-3153.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated this 15 day of Dec., 2005

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